



NEWS RELEASE

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Man Charged With Beating Dog With Metal Chain

A 30-year-old man was charged today with beating his German Shepherd, Kaiser, with a metal chain leash, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Emily Cole said Mohamad Taghavi (dob 1/26/84) faces one felony count of cruelty to an animal with the allegation that he used the chain as a deadly weapon.

Arraignment for case PA081929 is scheduled this afternoon in Department S of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, San Fernando Branch.

On Sept. 10, Taghavi punched his 3-year-old dog multiple times and struck him with a metal chain leash while at a food truck on Castaic Street in Castaic, the prosecutor said. When Kaiser attempted to hide under the truck, the defendant yanked the chain multiple times causing the dog to whimper, the prosecutor added.

If convicted as charged Taghavi faces a maximum penalty of four years in state prison.

Kaiser is now being cared for by the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Santa Clarita Station.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.